

U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/923,506
Amendment Dated Jan. 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2005
Docket No. BOC9-2001-0006 (241)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An Application Service Provider delivery method, comprising:

providing a short-range radio frequency communications system, said system having a host computing device connected to a computer communications network over a physical communications link medium, said system being configured both to provide Application Service Provider services over short-range radio communications links to wireless devices in a personal area network (PAN), and also to receive Application Service Provider services from other Application Service Providers in said computer communications network over said physical communications link medium, and said Application Service Provider services comprising a plurality of different software programs from among which a user of a wireless device selects and interacts with via a short-range radio communications link, each of the different software programs being distinct from applications providing access to said computer communications network;

establishing a short-range radio communications link with a wireless device in said PAN;

receiving requests for selected Application Service Provider services from said wireless device;

determining if said host computing device can provide said requested Application Service Provider services without requiring further assistance from another Application Service Provider; and,

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if said host computing device cannot provide said requested Application Service Provider services without requiring further assistance from another Application Service Provider, retrieving said requested Application Service Provider services from another Application Service Provider over said physical communications link medium ~~and forwarding retrieved Application Service Provider services to said wireless device in said PAN over said short-range radio communications link.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing a BLUETOOTH-based communications link with said wireless device.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing an IEEE 802.11b based communications link with said wireless device.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing an IEEE 802.11a based communications link with said wireless device.

5. (Currently Amended) An Application Service Provider delivery system comprising:

a host computing system configured to communicate both with a communications network over a physical communications link medium and also with a plurality of wireless devices in a personal area network (PAN);

a short-range radio communications system for establishing and maintaining wireless communications in said PAN; and,

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a list of Application Service Provider services which can be accessed by said wireless devices in said PAN, said list indicating which Application Service Provider services can be distributed to said wireless devices in said PAN, said Application Service Provider services in said list residing locally in said host computing system and remotely in Application Service Provider servers in said communications network, wherein said Application Service Provider services comprise a plurality of different software programs that execute on at least one of said host computing device and an Application Service Provider server, each of the different software programs being distinct from applications providing access to said computer communications network.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein said short-range radio communications system comprises:

a short-range radio communications system configured in accordance with BLUETOOTH specifications.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein said short-range radio communications system comprises:

a short-range radio communications system configured in accordance with IEEE 802.11a.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein said short-range radio communications system comprises:

a short-range radio communications system configured in accordance with IEEE 802.11b.

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9. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for delivering Application Service Provider based services, said computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for performing the steps of:

establishing a short-range radio communications link with a wireless device in a personal area network (PAN);

receiving requests for selected Application Service Provider services from said wireless device, said Application Service Provider services comprising a plurality of different software programs from among which a user of said wireless device selects at least one to receive over said short-range radio communications link, each of the different software programs being distinct from applications providing access to said computer communications network;

determining if said requested Application Service Provider services can be provided without requiring further assistance from an external Application Service Provider; and,

if said requested Application Service Provider services cannot be provided without requiring further assistance from an external Application Service Provider, retrieving said requested Application Service Provider services from an external Application Service Provider and forwarding said retrieved Application Service Provider services to said wireless device in said PAN over said short-range radio communications link.

10. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing a BLUETOOTH-based communications link with said wireless device.

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11. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing an IEEE 802.11b based communications link with said wireless device.

12. (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 9, wherein said step of establishing a short-range radio communications link with said wireless device in said PAN comprises:

establishing an IEEE 802.11a based communications link with said wireless device.

13. (Currently Amended) An Application Service Provider delivery method, comprising:

providing a short-range radio frequency communications system, said system having a host computing device connected to a computer communications network over a physical communications link medium, said system being configured both to provide Application Service Provider services over short-range radio communications links to a wireless device in a personal area network (PAN), and also to receive Application Service Provider services from other Application Service Providers in said computer communications network over said physical communications link medium, and said Application Service Provider services comprising a plurality of different software programs from among which a user of a wireless device can select at least one, each of the different software programs being distinct from applications providing access to said computer communications network;

establishing a short-range radio communications link with a wireless device in said PAN;

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receiving from said Application Service Providers a list of Available Service Provider services at said wireless device;

requesting Available Service Provider services from said wireless device;

determining if said host computing device can provide said requested Application Service Provider services without requiring further assistance from another Application Service Provider; and,

if said host computing device cannot provide said requested Application Service Provider services without requiring further assistance from another Application Service Provider, retrieving said requested Application Service Provider services from another Application Service Provider over said physical communications link medium and forwarding retrieved Application Service Provider services to said wireless device in said PAN over said short-range radio communications link.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said list of Available Service Provider services is transmitted to said wireless device in response to a query transmitted by said wireless device.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said list of Available Service Provider services is transmitted to said wireless device automatically from said Available Service Providers in response to detecting a presence of said wireless device within said PAN.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, further comprising determining whether said wireless device is a valid subscriber of said Available Service Providers services.

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17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, further comprising prompting said wireless device to register with the Available Service Providers if said wireless device is not a valid subscriber.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein the list of available services is determined based upon at least one of prioritization, transaction statistics, resources of said wireless device, and resources of said communications system.

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